

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

April 26, 1999 LB 271, 605

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you. Do you have any messages or announcements?

CLERK: Just one, Mr. President, an Attorney General's Opinion to Senator Schrock to be inserted in the Journal (Re: LB 605). That's all that I have. (Legislative Journal pages 1696-1697.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: LB 271, Mr. President, when the Legislature recessed, Senator Bromm had pending AM1488.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: For discussion on the Bromm amendment to LB 271, Senator Hudkins.

SENATOR HUDKINS: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I will be speaking in support of the amendment that Senator Bromm has introduced. Obviously, there has been some negotiation or discussion going on over noon, and I'm sure that there's going to be more, but I would just want to give you a little bit more information on the specific example that Senator Bromm talked about, and that is the MUD well field in Saunders County. Saunders County is in a unique position in that it has, and I wish I had the number, and I don't know, they have a great number of acres that have been taken off of the tax rolls. The university has a large chunk of land out near Ithaca for their research center. The National Guard has acres off of the tax rolls near Ashland. The well fields now, and we were told earlier that there will be 800 acres additionally. The NRD lakes in Saunders County, there are a number of those that all used to be on the tax rolls. When Highway 77 is completed through Saunders County going north, granted it will go along a current county road, but there are going to be more acres because of right-of-way and because of four-laning off the tax rolls. And so Saunders County really gets cut short. When you continue to take land out of production off of the tax rolls, then the ones that are left, obviously, have to make up the difference. This amendment, I believe, is an attempt to stop some of that erosion, or at least to protect the taxing authority of the county or whatever the entity would be. We agree that Omaha needs the water. MUD needs the water. The